

REMARKS

At the outset, Applicant thanks the Examiner for the thorough review and consideration of the pending application. The Office Action dated August 25, 2004 has been received and its contents carefully reviewed.

Applicant appreciates the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 11-20 and 30-33 if rewritten in independent form including all of the elements of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicant hereby amends claims 1, 11, 13, 21, and 31 and claim 30 is hereby canceled. Specifically, Applicant amends claims 1 and 21 to incorporate the elements recited in claims 11 and 30, respectively. Accordingly, claims 1-29, and 31-35 are currently pending and in immediate condition for allowance.

Applicant believes the foregoing amendments place the application in condition for allowance and early, favorable action is respectfully solicited.

If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at (202) 496-7500 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

Application No.: 10/607,207
Amdt. dated November 10, 2004
Reply to Office Action dated August 25, 2004

Docket No.: 8733.838.00

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Dated: November 10, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

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